With the M. O. H's compliments.

BOROUGH OF POOLE.

REPORTS

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE

URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY

AND TO THE

POOLE PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY

for the Year ending Dec. 31st, 1900.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE URBAN AND PORT SANITARY AUTHORITIES.

POOLE:

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To the Poole Urban Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Report of the Health of the Poole Urban Sanitary District for the year ending December 31st, 1900.

Population.—Assuming that the rate of increase in the decade 1881—1891 still continues, I estimate the population of the district to be 18,990 to the middle of the year, and 19,186 to the end of the year. The Borough Surveyor, calculating on the number of inhabited houses, estimates the population to be 19,660.

Vital Statistics.—The following are the rates for England and Wales, 1900:—

Birth rate	28·9 per 1,000 living.
Death rate (all causes)	18·3 ,, ,,
,, Principal Zymotic Diseases	2·0 ,, ,,
Infant Mortality	154 per 1,000 births.

The approximate rates for rural England and Wales, 1890, are—

Death rate (all causes)	17·5 per 1,000 living.
,, Principal Zymotic Diseases	1·57 ,, ,,
Infant Mortality	138 per 1,000 births.

Births.—The number of Births registered during the year was 261 males and 265 females, making a total of 526. Hence the Birth-rate was 27·69 per 1,000. There was an increase of 17 as compared with 1899.

Deaths.—The number of Deaths registered during the year was 132 males and 160 females, making a total of 292. Hence the Death-rate was 15·37 per 1,000. There was a decrease of 33 as compared with 1899.

The Infantile Death-rate was 131·17 per 1,000.

The Zymotic Death-rate was 0·63 per 1,000.

The Monthly Returns of Births and Deaths were as follows:—

Month.	*Births*	*Deaths.*
January ..	50 ..	50
February ..	40 ..	19
March	38 ..	22
April	45 ..	25
May	51 ..	25
June	40 ..	25
July	34 ..	18
August	57 ..	19
September ..	41 ..	19
October	39 ..	27
November ..	49 ..	21
December ..	42 ..	22

The various Parishes and Hospitals were credited with the following number of Deaths :—

St. James, Poole	98
Poole Harbour	1
Longfleet	72
Parkstone	79
Hamworthy	10
Union Workhouse	18
Fever Hospital	—
Cornelia Hospital	14

The ages at which Death occurred were :—

Under 1 year	69
Between 1 and 5 years	23
,, 5 and 15 ,,	6
,, 15 and 25 ,,	11
,, 25 and 65 ,,	88
Over 65 years	95

Of those over 65 years, 29 were between 80 and 90 years, and five were over 90 years.

According to the returns forwarded me, the Deaths registered were credited as follows :—

Small Pox	none
Measles	,,
Scarlet Fever	,,
Whooping Cough	5
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	4
Croup	none
Typhus Fever	none
Enteric Fever	3
Continued Fevers	none
Epidemic Influenza	16
Cholera	none
Plague	,,
Diarrhœa	4
Interitis	7
Puerperal Fever	none
Erysipelas	2
Other Septic Diseases	1
Phthisis	17
Other Tubercular Diseases	7
Cancer, Malignant Disease	25
Bronchitis	25
Pneumonia	22
Pleurisy	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	13
Alcoholism—Cirrhosis of Liver	5
Venereal Diseases	none
Premature Birth	14
Diseases and Accidents of parturition	1
Heart Diseases	19
Accidents	8
Suicide	1
All other causes	92

In reviewing the Health History of the District for the past year, it will be well, according to my usual custom, to follow the foregoing analysis :—

Whooping Cough caused *five* deaths, viz. :—

1—Male, aged 9 months, Avenue Place, Poole, May 15th.
2—Female, aged 2 years, Kingston Road, Longfleet, June 3rd.
3—Female, aged 4 years, Taylor's Buildings, Poole, September 7th.
4—Male, aged 2 months, North Street, Poole, October 12th.
5—Male, aged 1 month, Pottery Cottages, Parkstone, November 26th.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup caused *four* deaths, viz. :—

1—Female, aged 1½ years, Fricker's Alley, Poole, May 25th.
2—Male, aged 5 months, Cornelia Hospital, May 24th.
3—Female, 10 months, Taylor's Buildings, Poole, September 24th.
4—Female, 2 years, East Quay, Poole, September 26th.

Enteric Fever caused *three* deaths, viz. :—

1—Female, aged 58 years, High Street, Poole, March 20th.
2—Female, 51 years, High Street, Longfleet, May 6th.
3—Male, 35 years, Parkstone Road, Longfleet, December 10th.

Epidemic Influenza caused *sixteen* deaths, viz. :—

1—Male, aged 76 years, Queen's Grove, Parkstone, December 28th, 1899.
2— ,, ,, 76 ,, Flag Farm, Parkstone, ,, 31st, ,,
3—Female, aged 77 years, Ringwood Road, Longfleet, January 2nd, 1900.
4— ,, ,, 70 ,, Skinner Street, Poole, January 5th.
5— ,, ,, 68 ,, King Street, Poole, January 5th.
6— ,, ,, 86 ,, Green Road, Poole, January 4th.
7— ,, ,, 49 ,, Witley Lodge, Parkstone, January 8th.
8—Male, ,, 68 ,, Mount Street, Poole, January 9th.
9— ,, ,, 69 ,, Cornelia Hospital, January 10th.
10—Female, ,, 86 ,, Parkstone, January 11th.
11— ,, ,, 70 ,, Poole Road, Parkstone, January 16th.
12—Male, ,, 86 ,, Market Street, Poole, January 25th.
13— ,, ,, 63 ,, Lagland Street, Poole, March 22nd.
14— ,, ,, 70 ,, Skinner Street, Poole, March 25th.
15—Female, ,, 85 ,, Lagland Street, Poole, October 28th.
16— ,, ,, 80 ,, Parkstone, December 18th.

Diarrhœa caused *four* deaths, viz. :—

1—Female, aged 2 months, Salterns Road, Parkstone, April 26th.
2— ,, ,, 17 days, Lagland Street, Poole, August 25th.
3— ,, ,, 48 years, Dear Hay Lane, Poole, September 22nd.
4— ,, ,, 67 years, near The Pound, Longfleet, September 29th.

Enteritis caused *seven* deaths, viz. :—

1—Female, aged 48 years, High Street, Longfleet, April 10th.
2— ,, ,, 13 months, Union Road, Longfleet, July 29th.
3—Male, ,, 51 years, Stanley Road, Poole, August 11th.
4—Female, ,, 2 months, Victoria Road, Longfleet, September 30th.
5— ,, ,, 1 month, Prosperous Street, Poole, September 29th.
6— ,, ,, 1 ,, Garland Road, Longfleet, October 1st.
7— ,, ,, 2 years, Hill Street, Poole, November 6th.

Erysipelas caused *two* deaths, viz. :—

1—Male, aged 62 years, King Street, Poole, August 10th.
2—Female ,, 50 ,, Trafalgar Row, Poole, September 29th.

Other Septic diseases caused *one* death, viz. :—

1—Male, aged 34 years, Cornelia Hospital, February 12th.

Phthisis caused *seventeen* deaths, giving a death-rate of 0·83 per 1,000. This number is 12 less than in 1899, and seven less than in 1898.

Other tubercular diseases caused *seven* deaths.

Cancer and Malignant disease caused *twenty-five* deaths.

Bronchitis caused *twenty-five* deaths.

Pneumonia caused *twenty-two* deaths.

Pleurisy caused *one* death.

Other diseases of Respiratory Organs caused *thirteen* deaths.

Alcoholism and Cirrhosis of Liver caused *five* deaths.

Premature Birth caused *fourteen* deaths.

Diseases and Accidents of Parturition caused *one* death.

Heart Diseases caused *nineteen* deaths.

Accidents caused *eight* deaths, viz. :—

1—Male, aged 87 years, Longfleet, fall down stairs, February 23rd.
2— ,, ,, 23 months, Parkstone, burns, April 2nd.
3—Female ,, 4¾ years, Cornelia Hospital, burns, April 12th.
4—Male ,, 6 ,, Branksome, run over by horse and van, July 20th.
5— ,, ,, 73 ,, Hamworthy, fall from cart, September 5th.
6— ,, ,, 59 ,, Poole, fall on stone yard, October 19th.
7—Female ,, 1 month, Poole, overlain, November 26th.
8—Male ,, 41 years, Cornelia Hospital, railway crush, December 8th.

Suicide caused *one* death, viz. :—

1—Female, aged 58 years, Poole, strangled herself, November 21st.

All other diseases caused *ninety-two* deaths.

It will be noticed that under the direction of Mr. W. H. Power (the new Chief Medical Officer to the Local Government Board), a fresh classification of diseases has been adopted to that which has obtained for many years. The new classification is an undoubted improvement on the former one.

Infectious Diseases Notification Act.—Under this Act 91 certificates (notifying 90 cases) were received from Medical Practitioners and only 20 notices from householders or relatives of persons affected with Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

The following is an Analysis of Localities and Diseases:—

Month.	Locality.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Enteric Fever.	Membranous Croup.	Totals.
January ..	Poole ..	3	..	..	..	..	8
	Parkstone ..	1	1	1	..	..	
	Longfleet ..	1	..	..	..	..	
	Hamworthy ..	1	..	..	..	..	
February ..	Poole ..	..	..	1	1	..	5
	Parkstone ..	..	1	1	..	1	
March ..	Poole ..	..	1	..	3	..	9
	Parkstone ..	2	..	1	..	..	
	Longfleet ..	2	..	..	..	..	
April	Poole ..	1	..	..	..	..	5
	Parkstone ..	3	..	..	..	..	
	Longfleet ..	..	..	..	1	..	
May	Poole ..	1	2	1	1	..	7
	Parkstone ..	..	..	..	1	1	
June	Poole ..	2	..	..	..	..	4
	Parkstone ..	..	..	1	1	..	
July	Poole ..	2	..	..	..	..	2
August ..	Poole ..	..	..	3	..	..	5
	Parkstone ..	..	..	1	..	..	
	Longfleet ..	..	..	1	..	..	
September ..	Poole ..	..	3	6	3	..	13
	Parkstone ..	..	..	1	..	..	
October ..	Poole ..	..	..	2	2	..	14
	Parkstone ..	5	..	..	..	..	
	Longfleet ..	..	..	1	1	..	
	Hamworthy ..	3	..	..	..	..	
November ..	Poole ..	..	..	..	1	..	5
	Parkstone ..	2	..	1	1	..	
December ..	Poole ..	..	..	..	2	..	13
	Parkstone ..	7	..	1	..	..	
	Longfleet ..	..	1	1	1	..	
		36	9	24	19	2	90
	Poole ..	10	6	13	13	..	42
	Parkstone ..	19	2	8	3	2	34
	Longfleet ..	3	1	3	3	..	10
	Hamworthy ..	4	..	..	..	..	4
		36	9	24	19	2	90

Summary of Notification received during years 1893—1900 :—

Disease.	1893 10 *mths*	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	Totals
Small Pox ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	2
Scarlet Fever ..	7	33	25	22	43	9	72	36	247
Diphtheria ..	9	39	11	10	30	26	21	9	162
Croup (Memb) ..	..	3	..	..	2	2	2	2	11
Enteric Fever ..	17	11	5	6	6	2	17	19	83
Puerperal Fever	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	4
Erysipelas ..	41	19	27	22	25	21	23	24	202
	75	105	75	62	106	61	137	90	711

Disease.	Poole	Parkstone	Longfleet.	Hamworthy	Totals.
Small Pox ..	..	1	..	1	2
Scarlet Fever ..	109	85	43	10	247
Diphtheria ..	67	67	25	3	162
Croup (Memb.)..	2	6	3	..	11
Enteric Fever ..	58	13	10	2	83
Puerperal Fever	1	2	1	..	4
Erysipelas ..	114	48	39	1	202
	351	222	121	17	711

Scarlet Fever.—As will be seen by reference to the first table, Scarlet Fever was prevalent in a mild way during nine months of the year. In several instances three cases occurred in the same house. The number of cases was under half those notified in 1899. On Easter Day a maid-servant was sent home by road and rail to Parkstone from Bournemouth by her mistress. The latter was prosecuted for "wilfully exposing," and was duly fined.

Diphtheria.—Of the nine cases of this disease, two occurred in May and three in September. Four proved fatal.

Erysipelas.—The average number of these cases was that which has obtained during the past seven years.

Enteric Fever.—Of the nineteen cases notified, one occurred in January, three in March, one in April, two in May, one in June, three in September, three in October, two in November, and three in December. There was no localized outbreak, but all the cases were scattered and single. Considering the nature of the subsoil exposed during the drainage excavations, and the offensive subsoil water pumped out of the trenches, it is a matter of congratulation that the cases were not much more numerous. The possibility and probability of "oysters" being an exciting cause was the subject of a special

report. In four cases only could I trace that they had been eaten, viz., one case in February, one in November, and two in December. Three cases proved fatal.

Membranous Croup.—Two cases were notified: one in February, the other in May. The latter proved fatal.

Fever Hospital.—Thirteen patients were admitted during the year. The admissions were as follows:—

Sex.	*Disease.*	*Admitted.*	*Discharged.*
1—Male	Scarlet Fever	January 15th.	February 14th.
2—Male	Scarlet Fever	January 8th.	March 1st.
3—Male	Scarlet Fever	January 15th.	March 20th.
4—Male	Scarlet Fever	January 15th.	March 20th.
5—Male	Scarlet Fever	January 15th.	March 20th.
6—Female	Scarlet Fever	March 27th.	May 14th.
7—Female	Scarlet Fever	April 17th.	May 19th.
8—Male	Scarlet Fever	April 21st.	May 26th.
9—Male	Scarlet Fever	June 12th.	July 31st.
10—Female	Scarlet Fever	June 12th.	July 31st.
11—Male	Scarlet Fever	November 5th.	December 19th.
12—Male	Scarlet Fever	December 14th.	
13—Male	Scarlet Fever	December 17th.	

There was no death in the Fever Hospital.

I will now proceed to review the Sanitary work done during the year.

Scavenging, Flushing, &c.—The scavenging and flushing of the streets, and the removal of the night soil have been regularly and satisfactorily carried out.

Water Supply.—The Poole Water Works Company's supply during the past year has been the same, as regards quantity and quality, as in previous years. During the whole of the summer the supply was constant. One sample of well water, from Fowler's Lane, Poole, was submitted to me for analysis. My report thereon was that it was absolutely unfit for dietetic or drinking purposes.

Slaughter Houses.—These were inspected half-yearly by myself and the Inspector of Nuisances. At the April inspection nine were visited, and were noted as follows:—Very good, 1; good, 6; fair, 1; dirty, 0; locked, 1; disused, 1. At the October inspection nine were visited and noted as follows:—Very good, 1; good, 4; fair, 1; dirty, 0; locked, 1; disused, 2.

Bakehouses.—These were inspected half-yearly by myself and the Inspector of Nuisances. At the April inspection 36 were visited and noted as follows:—Very good, 5; good, 21; fair, 3; dirty, 3; locked, 1; disused, 2. At the October inspection 34 were visited and noted as follows:—Very good, 6; good, 14; fair, 10; dirty, 3; locked, 1; disused, 0.

Factories and Workshops.—These were inspected at intervals during the year by the Inspector of Nuisances, and were found to be generally in good condition.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—These were inspected by myself and the Inspector of Nuisances. At the May inspection 22 were visited and found in the following condition:—Very good, 1; good, 15; fair, 4; dirty, 1; locked, 1. Owing to ill health I was unable to make my inspection in November.

Premises in an Unsanitary condition.—The Inspector of Nuisances has visited several premises in an unsanitary condition, besides all houses in which infectious diseases were notified as occurring, and gave the necessary directions for cleansing, &c. My personal inspection was made in all cases where requested by the Inspector. Reports with regard to tenements in Drake's Alley, Poole, and Gray's Yard, Poole, were made on May 28th and June 28th.

Unsound Food.—In no instance was I called upon to condemn any article of food.

Disinfection.—The disinfection of premises where infectious diseases were notified as having occurred was thoroughly carried out by the Inspector of Nuisances and his Assistants. During the summer the courts and alleys of the town were cleansed and white-washed as in previous years.

Nuisances.—These were dealt with ordinarily by the Inspector, to whom all complaints were referred for enquiry, &c. Where necessary, he appealed to me for advice and instructions.

Public Elementary Schools.—In no instance was it necessary to close any of the Public Elementary Schools on account of prevalent epidemics.

The Drainage Scheme.—The progress of the drainage works has been considerable and self-evident.

In conformity with the requirements of the Local Government Board, I have, as in previous years, made frequent inspections of the various parts of the district.

I have again to acknowledge the very valuable assistance rendered me by the Inspector of Nuisances, Mr. Richard Smith, Jun., who continues to perform the duties of his office with his usual tact, thoroughness and courtesy.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HERBERT A. LAWTON, M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Poole, January 17th, 1901.

TABLE I.

POOLE URBAN SANITARY.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.		Deaths under one year of age.		Deaths at all ages. Total.		Deaths in Public Institutions.
		No.	Rate*	No.	Rate†	No.	Rate*	
1890	14027	378	26·94	31	82	206	14·68	28
§1891	15500	431	27·80	34	78	220	14·18	32
1892	15888	466	29·33	80	171	329	20·70	35
1893	16275	460	28·26	76	165	290	17·81	32
1894	16662	538	32·25	41	91.	229	13·74	30
1895	17053	497	29·56	63	126	258	15·13	26
1896	17438	550	31·54	64	116	260	14·90	30
1897	17826	511	28·66	63	123	277	15·53	25
1898	18214	526	28·76	76	145	268	15·31	32
1899	18602	509	27·36	90	173	325	17·47	43
Averages for the years 1890—1899	16748	486	28 95	61·8	127	267	16·59	31
1900	18990	526	27·69	69	131·17	292	15·37	32

§ Census Year. * Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.
† Rate per 1,000 Births registered.

TABLE III.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES notified during the Year 1900.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in the whole District.							Total Cases notified in each Locality.					No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.	
	At all Ages.	At ages—years.						Poole H	Parkstone	Longfleet.	Hamworthy	Port	Poole	Parkstone
		under 1 year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 upwards							
Diphtheria ..	9	1	4	..	..	..	..	5	2	1	..	1	..	..
Membran. Croup	2	1	1	..	..	..		..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas ..	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	8	3	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ..	36	..	5	..	..	..		10	19	3	4	..	6	7
Enteric Fever ..	19	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	3	3	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	90	2	10	..	..	..	..	41	34	10	4	1	6	7

Table IV. **CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1900.**

Causes of Death.	Deaths in whole District at subjoined ages.							Deaths in Localities at all ages.				Deaths in Public Institutions.
	All Ages	under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	Poole	Parkstone	Longfleet	Hamworthy	
Whooping-cough ..	5	3	2	..	..	..	..	3	1	1	..	..
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup ..	4	2	2	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	1
Enteric Fever ..	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	2	..	..
Epidemic Influenza	16	..	..	..	..	2	14	9	6	1	..	1
Diarrhœa ..	4	2	..	..	1	..	1	2	1	1	..	..
Enteritis ..	7	3	2	..	..	2	..	3	..	4	..	..
Erysipelas ..	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..
Other septic diseases	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1
Phthisis	17	..	..	2	5	10	..	6	7	3	1	..
Other tubercular diseases ..	7	2	2	..	1	2	..	2	1	4	..	..
Cancer—Malignant Disease ..	25	..	..	..	1	16	8	12	5	5	3	2
Bronchitis ..	25	7	1	..	..	9	8	13	6	6	..	4
Pneumonia ..	22	8	4	..	..	5	5	11	9	2	..	2
Pleurisy	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	13	2	4	..	..	4	3	7	4	2	..	1
Alcoholism — Cirrhosis of Liver ..	5	..	..	..	..	4	1	1	1	3	..	3
Premature Birth ..	14	14	..	..	..	..	..	5	4	5	..	..
Diseases & Accidents of parturition ..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..
Heart Disease ..	19	..	..	2	..	7	10	6	8	5	..	3
Accidents ..	8	1	2	1	..	2	2	4	2	1	1	2
Suicides ..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
All other causes ..	92	25	4	1	3	16	43	38	22	27	5	12
All Causes ..	292	69	23	6	11	88	95	131	79	72	10	32

COUNTY OF DORSET.

The Urban Sanitary District of Poole.

Return relating to Sanitary Work within the above District during the year ended 31st December, 1900.

No. of Complaints received during the year 1900 ...	29
,, of Inspections of houses, premises, &c.	822
Results of Inspections :—	
Orders issued for Sanitary Amendment of houses and premises	50
Houses, premises, &c., cleaned, repaired, whitewashed, &c. ...	2
Houses Disinfected after infectious illness	24
House Drains—	
New provided	146
Repaired, cleaned, trapped, &c.	16
Privies and W.C's.—	
New provided	20
Water supplies provided	10
Miscellaneous—	
Removal of accumulations of Manure, animal and other refuse	9
Legal Proceedings (Summonses)	2
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	51

R. SMITH,
Sanitary Inspector.

19th January, 1901.

To the Poole Port Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Report as Port Medical Officer of Health for the year ending December 31st, 1900, and in so doing have again much pleasure in being able to give a very satisfactory account of the healthy condition of the seamen on board of the vessels which have entered and left the Port of Poole during the year.

One case only of Infectious Disease has been certified, viz., A seamen on board the ship "L. C. Owen," who was certified on May 5th as suffering from Diphtheria. The man was a patient at the Cornelia Hospital. The vessel was visited, inspected, and disinfected by the Inspector.

Deaths.—One death was registered as having occurred within the Port of Poole, viz., Male, 29 years, found drowned on April 26th.

Plague.—In consequence of an outbreak of Plague in Glasgow, a special inspection of the Port of Poole was made by Dr. Copeman, of the Local Government Board, who met the Town Clerk, the Inspector of the Port, and myself, in consultation as to the measures to be taken in the event of any case of Plague occurring. All vessels from Glasgow were specially inspected by me, viz. :—

1—September 26th, ship "Saltram." Cargo—Coals. Left Glasgow Sept. 12th.
2—October 25th, ship "Dairy Maid." Cargo—Coals. Left Glasgow Oct. 4th.

The same Inspections of Vessels by the Harbour Authorities, Board of Trade, and Customs Officials, have been made as in previous years.

Inspections.—The number of vessels inspected by the Sanitary officials was 118, and were thus classed :—

	English.	*Foreign.*
Good	78	7
Fair	28	1
Dirty	4	0
	110	8

Of the four dirty, three were cleansed and one left without complying with notice. In this case information was sent to the Sanitary Officers of the port to which the ship sailed.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HERBERT A. LAWTON, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Poole, January 17th, 1901.